

RAILS Illinois Freedom of Information Act Policy

1. A brief description of our public body is as follows:
 - A. RAILS was established under the Illinois Library System Act (75 ILCS 10/) and is funded by the Illinois State Library and the Secretary of State with funds appropriated by the Illinois General Assembly.
 - B. An organizational chart is attached.
 - C. The total amount of our operating budget for FY2026 is \$16.9 million with an additional special revenue budget of \$1.1 million and a capital projects budget of \$0.7 million. Funding sources are the State of Illinois and member libraries.
 - D. The primary office is located at: 125 Tower Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527. Branch offices are located at 715 Sabrina Drive, East Peoria, IL 61611; 4717 Colt Road, Rockford, IL 61109; 220 W. 23rd Avenue, Coal Valley, IL 61240; and 1000 W. Crossroads Parkway, Bolingbrook, IL 60490.
 - E. We have approximately the following number of persons employed: 100
 - F. The following organization exercises control over our policies and procedures: The Reaching Across Illinois Library System Board of Directors, which meets most months at various locations. Board members are listed at <https://www.railslibraries.org/board>.
 - G. We are required to report and be answerable for our operations to the Illinois State Library, Springfield, Illinois. Its members are State Librarian Alexi Giannoulis (Secretary of State), the Director of the State Library, and various other staff.
2. You may request the information and the records available to the public in the following manner:
 - A. Use the request form (see attached).
 - B. Your request should be directed to the following individuals: Alex Vancina and Monica Harris, FOIA Officers.
 - C. You must indicate whether you have a "commercial purpose" in your request.

- D. You must specify the records requested to be disclosed for inspection or to be copied. If you desire that any records be certified, you must specify which ones.
 - E. To reimburse us for our actual costs for reproducing and certifying (if requested) the records, you will be charged the following fees:
There is a \$1.00 charge for each certification of records.
The first fifty (50) pages of black-and-white text, either letter or legal size, are free. There is a \$.15 per page charge for copied records over 50 pages.
The actual copying cost of color and other-sized copies will be charged.
 - F. If the records are kept in electronic format you may request a specific format and if feasible, they will be provided, but if not, they will be provided either in the electronic format in which they are kept (and you would be required to pay the actual cost of the medium only, i.e. disc, diskette, tape, etc.) or in paper as you select.
 - G. The office will respond to a written request within five (5) working days or sooner if possible. An extension of an additional five (5) working days may be necessary to properly respond.
 - H. Records may be inspected or copied. If inspected, an employee must be present throughout the inspection.
 - I. The place and times where the records will be available are as follows:
8:30 AM until 5:00 PM
Reaching Across Illinois Library System Administrative Offices
125 Tower Drive
Burr Ridge, IL 60527
3. Certain types of information maintained by us are exempt from inspection and copying. However, the following types or categories of records are maintained under our control:
- A. Monthly Financial Statements
 - B. Annual Receipts and Disbursements Reports
 - C. Budget
 - D. Annual Audits

- E. Minutes of the Board of Directors
- F. System Policies and Bylaws
- G. Adopted Ordinances and Resolutions of the Board
- H. Annual Reports and the Area and Per Capita Grant Application to the Illinois State Library

FOIA requests may be emailed to foia@railslibraries.org.